



[c01] (Currently amended)

A play structure for children, comprising a rigid frame and a ramp, where:

the ramp is constructed of flexible sheet material; and
the ramp is stretched tight on the rigid frame; and
a climbing portion of the ramp has footholds; and
the footholds are solid so as not to collapse under the

weight of a climber's foot; and

the footholds are flexible so as to flex with the sheet material and not injure a child sliding on the climbing portion; and

the footholds are above the plane of the ramp, so the climbing portion can also function as a bumpy slide; and

a sliding portion of the ramp is smooth; and
the sliding portion of the ramp has a surface of sufficiently low friction so as to not cause friction injury on exposed skin of a sliding child.

[c02] (Currently amended)

The play structure of claim 1 where at least one of the footholds is constructed with two strips of flexible sheet material and with bulky material, where:

one long edge of the first strip is attached to the second strip at a line along the length of the second strip; and

the two long edges of the second strip plus the remaining long edge of the first strip are attached to the ramp, ~~roughly horizontally~~, all on the same line or on nearby parallel lines, forming two ~~roughly horizontal~~ tunnels; and

the two tunnels are horizontal or tilted from the horizontal, either clockwise or counterclockwise, less than 45 degrees; and

the two tunnels are filled with the bulky material; and

the lower filled tunnel ~~(with the lower tunnel filling)~~ prevents the upper filled tunnel ~~(with the upper tunnel filling)~~ from flopping down under the foot of a climbing child.

[c03] (Currently amended)

The play structure of claim 1 where:

the low end of the ramp is held in place by a horizontal beam for the width of the ramp;

a safety mat covers support surface area where children sliding or falling off the ramp will land;

a portion of the safety mat also covers the beam that holds the low end of the ramp in place; and

a long edge of a flap, of flexible sheet material, is attached horizontally across the ramp, near the low end of the ramp and above the beam holding the low end of the ramp in place; and

the flap extends forward, over the beam and over the safety mat portion covering the beam, to convey sliding children from the ramp onto the mat, children being insulated from the rigidity of the beam by the mat; and

the safety mat is ~~detachably~~ connected to the flap, or to the low end of the ramp, or to the low ramp beam.

[c04] (Original)

The play structure of claim 1 where:

the rigid frame also forms a horizontal play platform, level with the top of the ramp; and

the flexible sheet material of the ramp extends also over the front of the play platform, to some line of attachment on or beyond the platform; and

the edge of the platform, which is adjacent the ramp, is padded under the extended ramp material; and

said padding forms a rounded shape, rounding down from the plane of the platform to the plane of the ramp.

[c05] (Original)

The play structure of claim 4 where:

rigid frame material, of the platform surface portion adjacent the top of the ramp, is angled down at a shallow angle as it runs forward; and

the padding covers that angled down material; and

the padding on the upper region of the angled down area has a triangular cross section, forming there a horizontal surface flush with the horizontal surface of the further-from-ramp portion of the platform; and

the top surface of padding, where it covers the lower region of the angled down area, is rounded down to an approximate tangent to the ramp.

[c06] (Original)

The play structure of claim 1 where the sliding portion of the ramp is constructed of, or covered with, cloth of a satin weave, the satin weave oriented to reduce friction with children sliding down the ramp.

[c07] (Original)

The play structure of claim 1 where the rigid frame also forms a playroom, the playroom floor being a horizontal platform level with the top of the ramp, the playroom being largely open to the top of the ramp for most of the width of the ramp, the playroom being closed elsewhere.

[c08] (Original)

The play structure of claim 7 where:

a vertical screen of flexible sheet material closes the central portion of the open-to-ramp area on the ramp side of the playroom, and;

the bottom edge of the screen is attached near the center of the top of the ramp, on a first horizontal line parallel with the upper edge of the ramp, and;

the top edge of the screen is attached to, or near to, the front edge of the playroom ceiling, on a second horizontal line, second horizontal line being roughly parallel to the first horizontal line.

[c09] (Original)

The play structure of claim 7 where the frame is constructed of wood lengths, with rigid plastic sheet material covering areas between the lengths to form playroom walls and/or fall barrier panel surfaces, rigid plastic sheet material being attached to the wood lengths.

[c10] (Original)

The play structure of claim 7 where, for storage or transport, the rigid parts of the structure can be put in a compacted configuration containing the ramp.

[c11] (Original)

The play structure of claim 1 where:

the frame also provides rigid vertical fall barriers panels along the inclined edges of the ramp; and

flexible sheet material forms a lining on the inner surface of each fall barrier panel; and

each said lining extends upwards, from where it is attached to its ramp edge, to the upper and forward edges of adjacent fall barriers; and

said lining folds over the upper and forward edges of the fall barrier panels.

[c12] (Original)

The play structure of claim 11 where:

a first edge of a sheet of netting is attached to the lining of one fall barrier, near where the lining folds over fall barrier panel edges; and

the netting spans area roughly above the low ramp beam; and

a second edge of the netting (opposite the first edge) is attached (in a similar way as the first edge is attached) to the lining of that second side's adjacent fall barrier.

[c13] (Original)

The play structure of claim 1 where:

- the frame also provides rigid vertical fall barriers panels along the inclined edges of the ramp; and

- flexible sheet material forms a lining on the inner surface of each fall barrier; and

- each lining is attached to its adjacent inclined edge of the ramp; and

- each lining extends upwards to upper and forward edges of the fall barriers; and

- a sheet of netting is attached, at points a short way in from a first edge of the netting, to the lining of one fall barrier, near the upper and/or forward fall barrier panel edges; and

- the netting spans area roughly above the low ramp beam; and

- the netting sheet is attached, at points a short way in from a second edge of the netting opposite the first edge (in a similar way as the first edge is attached), to the lining of the fall barrier adjacent the second netting edge; and

- the netting fabric extends over the upper and/or forward edges of both fall barrier panels, folding down and continuing some ways down, and/or back, the outside of the fall barrier panels.

[c14] (Original)

A play structure comprising a box-like base, a box-like playroom, and a ramp, where:

- a portion of the ramp is smooth for sliding; and

- a portion of the ramp has footholds for climbing; and

- the top end of the ramp is supported by a top edge of the base; and

- the playroom sits atop the base and is open to the ramp; and

- the ramp can be stored within the playroom; and

- the playroom can be stored within the base.

[c15] (Original)

The play structure of claim 14 where the ramp is constructed of flexible sheet material.

[c16] (Original)

The play structure of claim 14 and also including vertical fall barrier panels along both inclined edges of the ramp where:

some or all of the fall barrier panels are connected to the playroom walls by hinge-like attachments, and

fall barrier panels swing on their hinge-like attachments to close over the open face of the playroom.

[c17] (Original)

The play structure of claim 16 where the ramp is constructed of flexible sheet material.

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